the *Specimen inventorum*, was first published by Carl Immanuel Gerhardt in 1890.[29] This edition of the essay, however, omitted the marginal note in which Leibniz mentioned space, and with some reason: the topic of the note has little to do with the rest of the essay—arguably, Leibniz added it in the margin while distracted by his thoughts on Newton. Gerhardt's edition of the *Specimen inventorum* was (partially) translated into English by G. H. R. Parkinson in 1973 in his influential collection of Leibniz's texts.[30] It was therefore read by many interpreters in this diminished form, without the crucial marginal note. In 1974, Parkinson also published a paper dedicated to the same essay, and in doing so he went back to the manuscript and edited for the first time the marginal note on the relationality of space left out by Gerhardt.[31] Parkinson, however, dated the *Specimen inventorum* to 1686, given the similarity of its content to that of the *Discours de métaphysique* (written in that year). This dating, again, would not fit with our story, since it is a year before the publication of Newton's *Principia*. It was only in 1999 that the Academy published the critical edition of the *Specimen*, showing that it was in fact written on Vienna paper and had therefore to be dated to 1688.[32] The same edition also added a few more fragments dating from 1688–9 and mentioning a relational space, which may be seen as the first elaborations of Leibniz's new theory.

At this point all the pieces of the puzzle were in place, but a certain inertia continued to hold many scholars to an early dating of the *Specimen*. In 2001, Richard Arthur published an important English edition of Leibniz's writings on the continuum, including the *Specimen* and the texts following it, but relied on Parkinson's incorrect dating.[33] Several other scholars doing

[29] GP VII, 309–18.

[30] G. H. R. Parkinson (ed.), *G. W. von Leibniz's Philosophical Writings* [*Leibniz's Writings*] (London: Dent, 1973), 75–86.

[31] G. H. R. Parkinson, 'Science and Metaphysics in Leibniz's "Specimen Inventorum"', *Studia Leibnitiana*, 6 (1974), 1–27.

[32] A VI, 4, N. 312, 1615–30; the marginal note is here in 1621–2. The *Specimen* had already been dated to 1688 in the preprint (*Vorausedition*) of the Academy edition of 1983. I may add that whereas the editorial note of the Academy edition was still marginally doubtful about the dating, this can now be confirmed with certainty. In fact, it seems that the pieces of paper containing Leibniz's notes on Newton and those containing the *Specimen* come from the same large sheet of Viennese paper (or two identical sheets). I thank Siegmund Probst for helping to check anew the paper of the two texts.

[33] See Arthur, *Labyrinth*. The *Specimen* is there edited and translated at 302–33 (Leibniz's marginal note on space is at 312–13), and the other texts at 332–5. They are all dated to 1686. In preparing his edition, Arthur was still working from the text of the *Vorausedition* and acknowledged in a note that the dating of 1688 for the *Specimen* had been suggested (423). Arthur adopted the 1686 dating of the *Specimen* in his important essays on Leibniz's theory of space. See, for instance, R. T. W. Arthur, 'Space and Relativity in Newton and Leibniz', *British Journal*

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